

Youth Burned in Water Show Accident at Pool

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CITY TO SUE TRASH DEBTORS

City to Take Delinquent Home Owners to Court

More than 450 Torrance residents who have consistently refused to pay their rubbish collection bills, will be taken to court by the city.

Small claims actions are expected to be filed against the first batch of approximately 50 home owners next week, according to Jerome L. Scharfman, city finance director.

"We've done everything possible to get these people to pay up. With everybody else paying, it isn't fair for these not to," the official, who was assigned the task of collecting the cash, said.

Add to Cost

He added that delinquent bills have added to the cost of the municipal service, which costs more than the \$1 monthly charge to residents.

Scharfman said that all the persons who will be sued in small claims court have never paid the city anything. Each one will be sued for \$12, the cost of 12 months of collection service, as well as court costs and expenses for the process service.

He added that the court action follows several attempts by mail, telephone and personal contact to collect the money.

"We've done everything we could to collect," the official explained.

Used Service

He said that residents who have filed sworn affidavits that they do not use the municipal pickup, will not be sued by the city, but all the defendants are home owners who have received the service.

Scharfman added that the delinquencies amount to "several thousand dollars."

Residents are billed for the pickup service by the water department.

Although the city had at first intended to serve all delinquent home owners at once, court and marshal's office officials advised that not more than 50 should be served in any one week.

Avalanche of Calls Follows Press Rental

Mrs. Betty Arnold had no problems at all renting her two-bedroom house at 2819 Spreckels lane, Redondo Beach, after advertising it in the Torrance Press.

More than 40 persons called after her classified ad appeared in this newspaper, and she rented it right away to good tenants.

If you have something to rent, sell or buy, call a Torrance Press ad-taker at FA 8-2345 and let her give you expert help on your advertising.



FIRE SAFETY—Inspecting Fire Prevention Week stickers, to be used during the week which begins Oct. 5, are Mrs. Joan Phipps Luup, president of the Harbor Cities Insurance Women's Association, Fred Hansen, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce's fire prevention committee, and acting Mayor Willys Blount, right, leaders of the program.

Two Dead, Many Hurt in Traffic Accident Binge

Weekend Casualties Continue

A Gardena woman and a Torrance tot were killed and nine persons injured as Torrance recorded another blood-letting traffic binge for the second consecutive weekend.

Since Saturday morning, Torrance recorded one fatality, 11 accidents with injuries and eight others without injuries. Another fatality in the Torrance area occurred outside the city limits.

The youngster, Steven Powell, 15 months, was crushed to death in the driveway of his home, 1013 Jay st., when his father backed his car.

The grief-stricken father, Billy Powell, 30, at first thought he had backed over a toy, only to find that he had run over his own son, he told police.

Injured fatally in a two-car collision at 174th st. and Arlington ave., Saturday, was Mrs. Idres Plan, 63, of 1326 W. 160th st., Gardena, passenger in an auto driven by her husband, Axel Wilhelm, 63, police said.

The woman's death at Harbor General Hospital, was the city's fourth traffic fatality of the year. Plan and the driver of the other car, Elsworth Molder, 49, of 1515 Silver st., Hermosa Beach, were also injured. Mrs. Plan was thrown from the car in the collision, and apparently struck the curb.

Youngsters Hit
Two youngsters suffered injuries when they were struck by autos. Neither of the drivers was held.

Richard Alan Canning, 6, of 2537 Rigland st., was taken to Harbor General Hospital with undetermined injuries after his bicycle collided with an auto driven by Walter B. Koomtz, 51, of 2474 W. 236th place, officers said.

The accident took place Sunday in front of 26127 Delos ave. Another boy, George Michael Carroll, 8, of 5308 Sunnyview Drive, was taken to Harbor General Hospital, after being struck by an auto driven by Sam A. Drumright, 49, of 5313 Sharyane lane, police said. The accident occurred in front of 22608 Linda drive.

Three persons complained of injuries following a two-car collision at Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne blvd., Sunday. Michael James Sims, 17, of 3610 W. 157th st., Lawndale, and his passenger, Pamela Spahr, 15, of 4565 W. 161st st., were injured as well as Pearl Speidell, 77, of San Pedro, passenger in the car driven by Vernon H. Powell, 65, of San Pedro, police reported.

Two persons were injured in an accident at 190th st. and Western ave. They were Thelma Louise Vance, 18, of Los Angeles, and Alene Bennett, 23, passenger in the car driven by her husband, William, 25, of 22033 Anza ave., officers said. Mrs. Bennett was taken to Harbor General Hospital with a cut over her eye and a possible broken rib.

In other accidents this week, Stanley Vincent Rother, 30, of 722 Crenshaw blvd., was taken to Harbor General Hospital following a collision at Arlington ave. and Carson st.

Police said that his machine was involved in a three-car collision. The other machines were driven by Walter John Bruce, 18, of 22032 Neptune st., and Lawrence Richard Derouin, 45, of 2218 W. 229th st.

Two residents of the same street collided at Camino de las Colinas and Pacific Coast Highway.

Joy Hawkins, 66, of 135 Camino de las Colinas was taken to Riviera Hospital. The other car was driven by Thomas Alan Roxborough, 28, of 8379 Camino de las Colinas, officers said.



NOT WELCOME—Mrs. Val Schneider sadly inspects damage caused by auto which drove right in the living room of her home at 2835 Danaha St. Police said the car was driven by Barbara Ann Pedrick, 17, of 3312 Winlock road, who said her brakes failed her. Car also knocked down a tree, hurled a small wall, and punched a large hole into the house.

Torrance Schools Jammed With 22,966 Students Now

A total of 22,966 children have hopped, skipped, jumped, or walked back to schools in the Torrance Unified School District, according to latest enrollment figures.

Since the enrollment generally increases daily for about two weeks, school officials expect that the figures will reach a predicted 23,300 by Oct. 1.

The totals include 18,491 elementary children and 4475 high school students. Sixty-nine students were enrolled in classes for the handicapped.

The only new school to open this year, Calle Mayor with 461 students, relieved double session problems at Seaside School, which for several years had the largest elementary enrollment. This year, Seaside dropped to eighth place in size, with some 932 students.

South High School became the city's second largest high school although it has no seniors. With the opening of 10 new classrooms, enrollment jumped to 1325 students. North High is largest, with 1972 and Torrance High has 1178.

Casimir Elementary School is the district's largest elementary school, with 1204 students, followed by Meadow Park with 1087 and Carr School with 987.

Other elementary enrollments were as follows: Perry, 956; Arlington, 943; Crenshaw, 937; Fern-Creswood, 935; Seaside, 932; Wood, 896; Steele, 878; Edison, 864; Torrance Elementary, 824; Riviera, 809; Anza, 749; Flavian, 704; Hillside, 684; Waltheria, 681; Sepulveda, 676; Parkway, 642; Madrona, 633; Calle Mayor, 461; and El Nido, 301.

Handicapped to Get City Posts

A recommendation to hire physically handicapped persons as fire department communication operators to relieve regular firemen for other duties, was submitted to the City Council Tuesday.

It was recommended that possibly some persons already in city employ, who have physical disabilities, may receive preference for the communication jobs.

A salary schedule of \$342 to \$374 per month was suggested.

TEAC Hears Need for Bonds to Continue School Building

If an Oct. 14 bond issue for new schools fails to pass, all new school construction in Torrance would stop, Assistant Superintendent S. E. Waldrip told members of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee at its Monday noon meeting at the YWCA.

Explaining the need for the bond issue, Waldrip said that bond funds would be used to build four new elementary schools and one high school, to build additions at 14 elementary and two high schools, and to make Fern School earthquake-proof, in accordance with state law.

Although Torrance is getting state loan funds to help build needed schools, the district must be bonded to its legal limit to be eligible for this aid, he said. If the bond issue fails to pass, the district could get no more state aid and the building program would stop for lack of funds, he told the group.

"The sale of bonds is the way that the state has provided for us to build schools," Waldrip said. "The amount of bonds we can sell in any one year is limited by law. Thus, voting of more bonds would mean no increase in taxes."

"The bond issue is your program," Superintendent J. H. Hull told the group. "It is need for your children, not for the benefit of any other group."

Waldrip reported that Yukon, Jefferson, Magruder, Lincoln, Hamilton, and Columbia Schools currently are under construction, as is the South High School gymnasium. All are expected to open later during this school year. Calle Mayor and 10 more classrooms at South High were opened to students when school started last week.

In another part of the program, the group heard a history of the development of the American public education system. A panel, consisting of Dr. Max Appleby, Ted Cyphert, Margaret Denmark, Gertrude Burbage, and Red McDaniel, gave a brief history of the development.



NEW DOLL—Things are beginning to look up for Sue Ann Offutt, 3, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Offutt, were made homeless when a fire gutted their home two weeks ago. Since that time gifts have poured in for the family, including even a doll for Sue Ann to make up for the one that was destroyed by fire.

Generous Citizens Open Hearts To Tragedy-stricken Family

Sue Ann Offutt's world seems bright again this week—she can cuddle a new doll which replaced the one that was destroyed when flames gutted her parents' home two weeks ago.

With the same happiness the doll represents to the three-year-old toddler, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Offutt, can look forward to a better future.

A start in that direction was given by the Torrance Moose Lodge, the American Legion and neighbors who rushed to the tragedy-stricken family's assistance.

Approximately 100 persons donated gifts to the once homeless family at a linen and household shower given in the Offutt's behalf Friday by the Moose in the home of Joseph Piatt.

An estimated \$250 of much needed items were donated at the event. This was added to gifts of fur-

Dive Act Causes Injury

A recreation department supervisor was burned during the finale of a water show which closed the Benstead Swimming Pool Saturday night.

Al Pell, 21, one of the staffers working on the "Indian Summer" pasant, was given emergency treatment for first degree burns, he suffered when he stood in the way of flashing fumes.

Pell was lighting gasoline thrown in the water for a flame diving act, when the wind drove the ignited fumes in his direction.

"This is not normally a dangerous act," commented Harry B. Van Belleh, director of the recreation department which sponsored the show which closed the swimming season.

He said that the act had been rehearsed several times during a westerly wind. However, on the night of the performance, the wind shifted to an easterly direction, causing Pell to come in contact with the flashing fumes.

Pell was treated at Harbor General Hospital for first degree burns on his left leg, arm and side.

Despite the accident, the diving act was performed Saturday night, but the act was cancelled for the Sunday performance.

Y Breakfast to Raise Funds for Youth Services

Future services of the Torrance YMCA will greatly depend on the success of the annual Good Neighbor Breakfast to be held Oct. 18.

City Attorney Stanley Remelmever, who is serving as ticket chairman of the ticket sale for the annual affair, to be held in the Civic Auditorium, explained that the breakfast is one of the major fund-raising events of the year.

"If it isn't successful, the YMCA will have to curtail a lot of services," he said.

In the past up to 4000 tickets were sold to the event. The charge will be 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for children.

Hunt Rattlers in City Field

A search for rattle snakes was conducted this week by South Bay Humane Society Officers, after some baby reptiles were discovered.

The humane officers concentrated their hunt around the vacant area at 190th and Entradero sts., where the babies were discovered.

The officers were armed with rifles on their search.

The search began after Robert Self, 10, of Rolling Hills was taken to Riviera Hospital after he was bitten twice on the head by a rattler near his home.

A refrigerator and washing machine from other area families were collected by the Moose drive under direction of James McCune, governor, and Mrs. Thomas Jenkins, senior Regent of the Women of the Moose.

These items have all been taken to the Offutt's temporary home, 443 E. 234th Walk.

Organization gifts have been received from the Bert S. Crossland American Legion Post, Torrance, Ladies of the Elks, Torrance, Compton, San Pedro and Manhattan Beach Moose Lodges and the Idois, a teenage Wilmington car club.

Individual donations have also been made in large numbers. Typical of the many gifts received were the complete set of dishes and silverware from Mr. and Mrs. Fred Keeler of Lomita, a hand-made quilt from Mrs. Lulu Solomon of Torrance, bunk beds from a Wilmington family

Inmate Damages Jail Cell

An irate prisoner caused a flood in the Torrance police station Saturday, when he ripped a toilet bowl and pipes from their moorings.

William Jennings Bryan Hughes, 50, a machinist, of 1318 Madrid St., pleaded innocent to a malicious mischief charge Monday, and asked for a jury trial set for Oct. 16.

The defendant was originally arrested by Redondo Beach police on charges he was driving on the wrong side of the street, and refusing to sign the citation.

Early Saturday morning, police discovered that the toilet, pipes, and fittings in Hughes' cell were ripped off. Water flooded the drunk tank, juvenile cells, trustees quarters, supply room and linen closet.

Police said Hughes refused to mop up the water, and the defendant was arraigned before Municipal Judge Donald Armstrong on a malicious mischief charge. He was freed after posting \$500 bail.

Two Policemen Hurt in Brawl

Two Torrance policemen became casualties of a man and his dog, when they tried to arrest him following a bar brawl at 190th st. and Kornblum ave. over the weekend.

When an officer placed Wayne Russell Humes, 46, of 19505 Flavian ave. under arrest for assertedly striking another man, the defendant allegedly tossed his small, brown dog at Officer Joseph Capriotta.

The pooch chewed the officers' arm and Humes allegedly then poked Officer Charles Oates in the face, knocking the policeman's brand new uniform hat into a water-filled gutter.

Humes was booked on suspicion of battery and resisting arrest. Officers Oates and Capriotta, were given medical treatments for their wounds. The dog was released to Mrs. Humes.